United Nations A/RES/55/75

General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 February 2001

Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 109

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/55/597)*]

55/75. Ad hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the announcement of voluntary contributions to the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1556 A (XV) of 18 December 1960 and 1729 (XVI) of 20 December 1961 on the convening of an ad hoc Committee of the Whole, under the chairmanship of the President of the General Assembly, as soon as practicable after the opening of each regular session of the Assembly, for the purpose of announcing pledges of voluntary contributions to the refugee programmes for the following year,

Recalling also that the ad hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the announcement of voluntary contributions to the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has been convened annually, under the chairmanship of the President of the General Assembly or his or her designated representative, at United Nations Headquarters, immediately following the debate on the report of the High Commissioner in the Third Committee,

Noting that the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/146 of 17 December 1999, endorsed the presentation of a unified annual programme budget of the Office of the High Commissioner,

Noting also that financial requirements under the annual programme budget for the programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner are presented in the global appeal issued late in November or early in December each year at Geneva, forming the basis for pledges in response to the information provided in the global appeal,

Decides, in order to improve and rationalize the funding mechanism following the adoption of the annual programme budget, that the ad hoc Committee of the General Assembly may be convened as from 2001 at Geneva, the headquarters of the Office of the High Commissioner.

81st plenary meeting
4 December 2000

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[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/55/597)*]

55/76. Fiftieth anniversary of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and World Refugee Day

The General Assembly

1. *Commends* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for its leadership and coordination of international action for refugees, and acknowledges the tireless efforts of the Office of the High Commissioner to provide international protection and assistance to refugees and other persons of concern and to promote durable solutions for their problems during the past fifty years;

2. *Pays tribute* to the dedication of United Nations humanitarian workers and associated personnel, the staff of the Office of the High Commissioner in the field, including local staff, who risk their lives in the performance of their duties;

3. *Reaffirms its support* for the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, on behalf of returnees, stateless persons and internally displaced persons;

4. *Notes* the crucial role of partnerships with Governments and international, regional and non-governmental organizations, as well as of the participation of refugees in decisions that affect their lives;

5. *Recognizes* that, by virtue of its activities on behalf of refugees and other persons of concern, the Office of the High Commissioner also contributes to promoting the purposes and principles of the United Nations, in particular those related to peace, human rights and development;

6. *Notes* that 2001 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[1] which sets out the fundamental concepts for international refugee protection;

7. *Also notes* that the Organization of African Unity has agreed that an international refugee day may coincide with Africa Refugee Day on 20 June;

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

8. *Decides* that, as from 2001, 20 June will be celebrated as World Refugee Day.

81st plenary meeting
4 December 2000